AUGUST
1977
No.61

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 12

DES ALPES RESTAURANT
732 Broadway

6 PM No Host Cocktails -- 7 PM Dinner
$6.50 includes tax and tip
(see page 13)

TELEGRAPH HILL SEMAPHORE

Publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers

President's Letter

Dear Members:

The San Francisco Examiner recently called THD "the most effective neighborhood lobby group in San Francisco". Why? Several reasons are clear to me:

a] THD has been consistent and persistent in its dedication to the purposes stated in its bylaws;

b] THD has been steadfast in its commitment to democratic processes;

c] THD has never endorsed political candidates, parties, or political issues – except those issues which related clearly to our stated purposes.

By sticking to our principles and to issues which are common to us all we have maintained a sometimes difficult, but democratic dialogue which, when it has coalesced into policies, is strong and credible.

To continue to make our voice strong and clear, we need maximum participation by our members. On page two is a list of committees – please call the chairmen or me, and offer your help!

Anne W. Halsted

COMMITTE ASSIGNMENTS 1977

Committees	Chairmen	Phone
Membership	Jane Winslow, 396 Lombard	421-1466
Planning, Zoning, Development	Bob Tibbits, 386 Chestnut Nan Roth, 466 Filbert	986-7227 397-2176
Parks, Trees, Open Space	Maggie Bayliss, 6 Gerke Alley Bob Armstrong, 462 Vallejo	982-6655 391-4178
Semaphore	John Holmes, 400 Union Dick Lantz, 152 Lombard	421-0274 986-5583
Social	June Morrison, 46 Calhoun William Varcoe, 19 Child	986-0421 398-4078
Traffic, Parking, Transit	Herb Kosovitz, 340 Chestnut	398-0757
Waterfront	Bob Katz, 2 Whiting	986-1890
Fire, Safety, Police	Ross Adkins, 40 Edith	982-7687
Budget	David Broadbear, 490 Greenwich Toby Bloxam, 3 Montague	397-1098 392-0
Special Committees		
Preferential Parking	Nancy Katz, 2 Whiting	986-1890
Upper Grant Improvement	Bob Tibbits, 386 Chestnut	986-7227
Garfield School	Jerry Lubenow, 300 Lombard Jane Winslow, 396 Lombard	981-8729 (8279) 421-1466
Vallejo Steps Beautification	Rod Freebairn-Smith, 460 Vallejo	986-8337
Waste Water Management	Hugh Douglas, 90 Alta	398-3060
Residential Re-Zoning and Non-Conforming Uses	Roger Boyer, 2019 Grant Carol Schwartzback, 2 Montague	398-3870 398-7994

THD CALENDAR

MARK THESE DATES!

September 12 – Dinner Meeting
September 24 – Coit Tower Picnic
October ?? – Business Meeting (By-Laws)
October 26 – Cocktail Party

KEARNY ST. STEPS – UPDATE

A new committee headed by Enrico Banducci has been formed to go ahead with plans and fund raising for the beautification of the Kearny Steet Steps. (See article in No. 55 – April 1975 issue of the Semaphore.)

Several members of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers are on the committee. We hope that something beautiful will replace the present eyesore between Vallejo and Broadway. Enrico will be a guest at our September 12 Dinner Meeting. Interested THD members may call Enrico at 392-6220 or John Holmes at 421-0274.

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NEW PARKING SPACES ON HILL

Right angle and diagonal parking is now installed on several streets in North Beach–Telegraph Hill to increase the number of spaces available to residents: Lombard [between Powell & Taylor], Greenwich [between Powell & Columbus], Green [between Grant & Kearny]; and, Vallejo [between Grant & Kearny].

When Permit Parking goes into effect in January – we will reap the benefits. Also, Herb Kosovitz is now working on parking improvements for Montgomery Street on top of the Hill and from Green to Broadway.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Actions taken by the THD Board of Directors and General Membership since April, 1977 (per By-Laws ARTICLE V, Section 12.):

April 12, 1977 Directors. Guest Mary McAndrew explained model of possible improvements for upper Grant Avenue on display at Malvina's until April 18. No action pending further study. Discussion on making Vallejo Street two-way again. No action pending poll of residents. Discussed non-conforming uses on the Hill. No action pending further study.

May 19, 1977 General Membership Meeting called to order at 7 PM by President Bob Tibbits. Guest speaker Supervisor John Molina summarized the preferential parking situation. The plan will probably go into effect around December 1977. In order to meet the special needs of various areas, amendments will be considered after a trial period.

Announcements: Bob Katz was honored at a dinner held by San Francisco Tomorrow on April 18.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The THD can not begin to thank Bob Katz for the tremendous amount of time and work he has put in on our behalf!

Treasurer Dave Broadbear reported $636.65 in the General Fund and $257.02 in the Legal Fund. New members were introduced. Nancy Katz thanked all those who worked to make pre

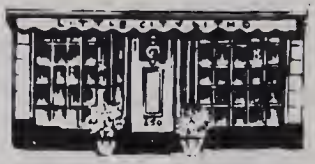
ferential parking possible. The slate of Officers proposed by the Nominating Committee was adopted unanimously. Due to the withdrawal of Mary Cara as a candidate for Director, nominations were made from the floor for the four new directorships. In addition to the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee (Ross Adkins, Hugh Douglas, and Herb Kosovitz) the following members were nominated: Liz Brotherton, Richard Lantz, George Rockrise, and Nan Roth. The four new Directors elected are: Ross Adkins, Hugh Douglas, Herb Kosovitz, and Richard Lantz.

Rod Freebairn-Smith reported that the landscaping of the Vallejo Street steps has not yet begun. Motion that the THD take no position on Proposition "A" (repeal of District Election of Supervisors) on the August 2 ballot. Motion to table same passed 32-20. Motion that the THD Board of Directors take no position on Propositions "A" and "B" on the August 2 ballot. Motion to table same passed.

A standing ovation was given to outgoing President Bob Tibbits. Bob then turned over the gavel to our new President Anne Halsted who adjourned the meeting at 10:02 PM.

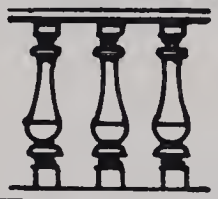
June 6, 1977 Directors. Our Treasurer reported $1606.95 in the General Fund and $257.02 in the Legal Fund. Motion: that the Board of Directors reaffirm THD support of retaining Garfield School and cooperate with all

650 Vallejo Street
San Francisco
California 94133
Phone: DOuglas 2-3324



LITTLE CITY LITHO

BORIS AND MARY PERICICH 397-8831
La Veranda



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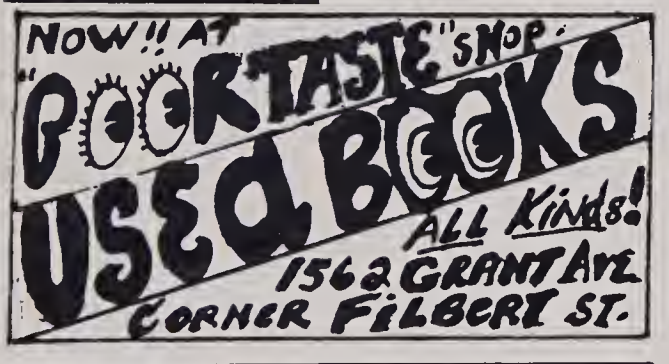
Vallejo and
Grant Avenue



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working towards that end. Passed. Motion regarding proposed improvement on Upper Grant Avenue: that at this time the THD support the current request by the Ad Hoc Committee for $5000 in NIIP funds to extend the curb at, and beautify, the SW corner of Grant and Union. Passed. No stand was taken on future proposals for Grant Avenue which must be evaluated by the Dwellers as they come up.

The Executive Committee for 1977-78 consists of President Anne Halsted, Vice President John Holmes, Treasurer David Broadbear (per By-Laws ART. V, Sec. 4.) and 2 members: Ross Adkins and Bob Tibbits who were elected by the Board.

Hugh Douglas volunteered and President Halsted appointed him to serve on the City's Wastewater Management Committee which is watchdogging the mammoth new sewer construction project which is about to hit us headon in the near future. It is hoped that noise and disruption will be kept at a minimum during construction.

Motion: that the THD send a strong letter to the Park and Recreation Commission protesting misuse of Washington Square Park for activities on too grand a scale for the size of the park. Motion Passed. Also discussed: Membership Drive, Parking, Waterfront, Zoning.

July 2, 1977 Directors. Special meeting on parking variance

quest. Agenda restricted to discussion of request by North East Medical Services (NEMS) for a parking variance for the former Blue Shield building at 1520 Stockton. Much discussion followed. Motion: that the THD oppose the granting of a parking variance to NEMS' proposed facility at 1520 Stockton Street. Amendment that the THD oppose any future parking variance at this site. Motion as amended passed unanimously with one abstention.

Discussion followed concerning lack of public input in the planning process for the proposed facility, NEMS' request for a parking variance, and both the present and future impact on the already congested traffic and parking situation in our neighborhood. A letter to the agencies involved was drafted, outlining our points of objection, but also expressing our sincere concern for the public needs in connection with the proposed medical services. Motion; that the President appoint an ad hoc legal committee to reinvestigate the procedural question relating to this request for a variance and report its findings to the next meeting of the Board. Passed unanimously. President Halsted appointed Ross Adkins to chair this committee. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm to enjoy the unexpected pleasure of champagne and caviar brought by Dr. and Mrs. Burton.

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(Formerly Montclair Restaurant)

July 13, 1977 Directors. Meetin called to order by President Anne Halsted at 7:50 pm. Guests Dr. Hum, Mr. Hoo, and Ms. Wong spoke regarding Northeast Medical Services' (NEMS) request for a parking variance at 1520 Stockton Street. Treasurer Dave Broadbear reported $1191.95 in the General Fund and $257.02 in the Legal Fund; and, also reported on the $800 deposit in dues checks lost by the bank. Motion that the Treasurer maintain a record of account numbers of checks in addition to the names of the members for future bank deposits. Passed.

Motion that the THD endorse in principle the idea of beautifying upper Grant Avenue. Passed. Motion that the THD support North Beach Community Arts' request for $90,000 in community development funds for Plan I – Beautification of Upper Grant Avenue from Vallejo to Filbert. Motion withdrawn after discussion.

Approved action taken by the Executive Committee supporting residents opposition to rezoning of Assesor's Block No. 41 from R-4 (Residential) to C-2 (Commercial) and supporting rezoning to RC-3 (Residential-Commercial). The new zoning proposed by the Planning Department is RC-3 and not C-2. This is the block across from the Rusty Scupper between Powell and Mason.

Roger Boyer reported that the Planning Department's response to THD's request for "TH-3" zon

ing was a new proposal for "RH-4" zoning which is not what we had in mind for the Hill. Meeting adjourned at Midnignt.

(Continued on page 19)

¡ZONING COMMITTEE ALERT!

¡Help! Your Zoning Committee needs you! There has been a sudden increase in applications for zoning variances on Telegraph Hill and environs in recent weeks. While many variance requests are reasonable and are not opposed by THD – other seemingly innocuous ones come back to haunt us many years later. The current variance request at 1520 Stockton is an excellent example in that the normal parking facilities required for medical offices is greatly reduced by the variance granted to the previous tenant even though the proposed use is different. Also, a variance granted to one owner can be claimed by a future applicant for a similar variance as an inherent property right possessed by others in the area under similar circumstances.

If you see a variance application or hearing notice anywhere in the vicinity of Telegraph Hill, North Beach, or the Northern waterfront; or, if you see a possible violation for which a variance has not been granted – do not assume that we know about it.
Take a moment to call Bob Tibbits at (w) 445-7504 or (h) 986-7227, or Nan Roth at 397-2176, and tell them of the location of the notice or suspected violation and of any additional information you can find on the property or project involved.

We could also use help in contacting neighborhood residents and in appearing at hearings when there is a request that we are considering opposing. If you are interested in actively participating in Zoning activities – or in contributing your expertise on such matters – please call us at one of the above members and sign-up.

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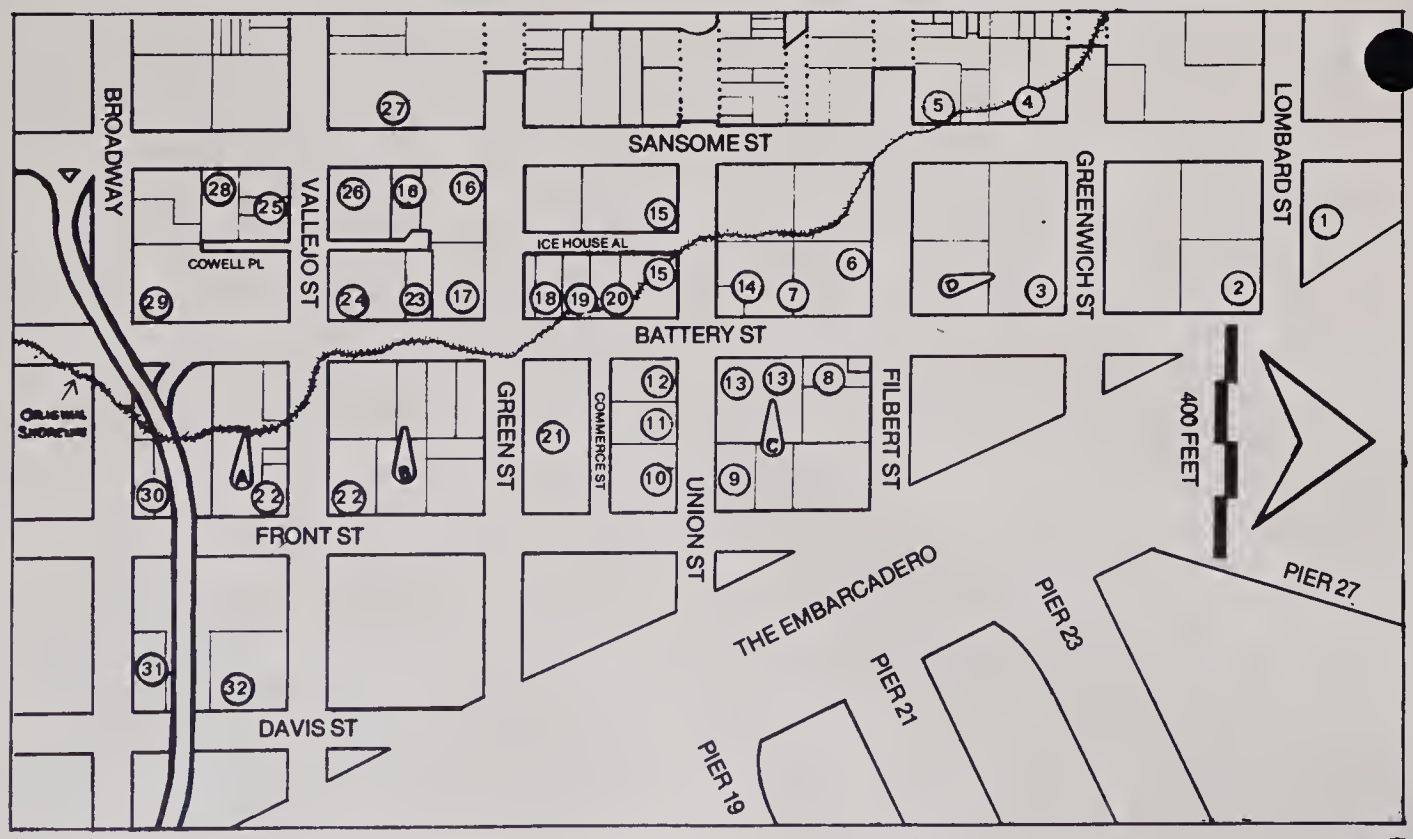
NORTH WATERFRONT HISTORIC DISTRICT WALKING TOUR

(Information courtesy Vickie Brown and Jean Kortum.)

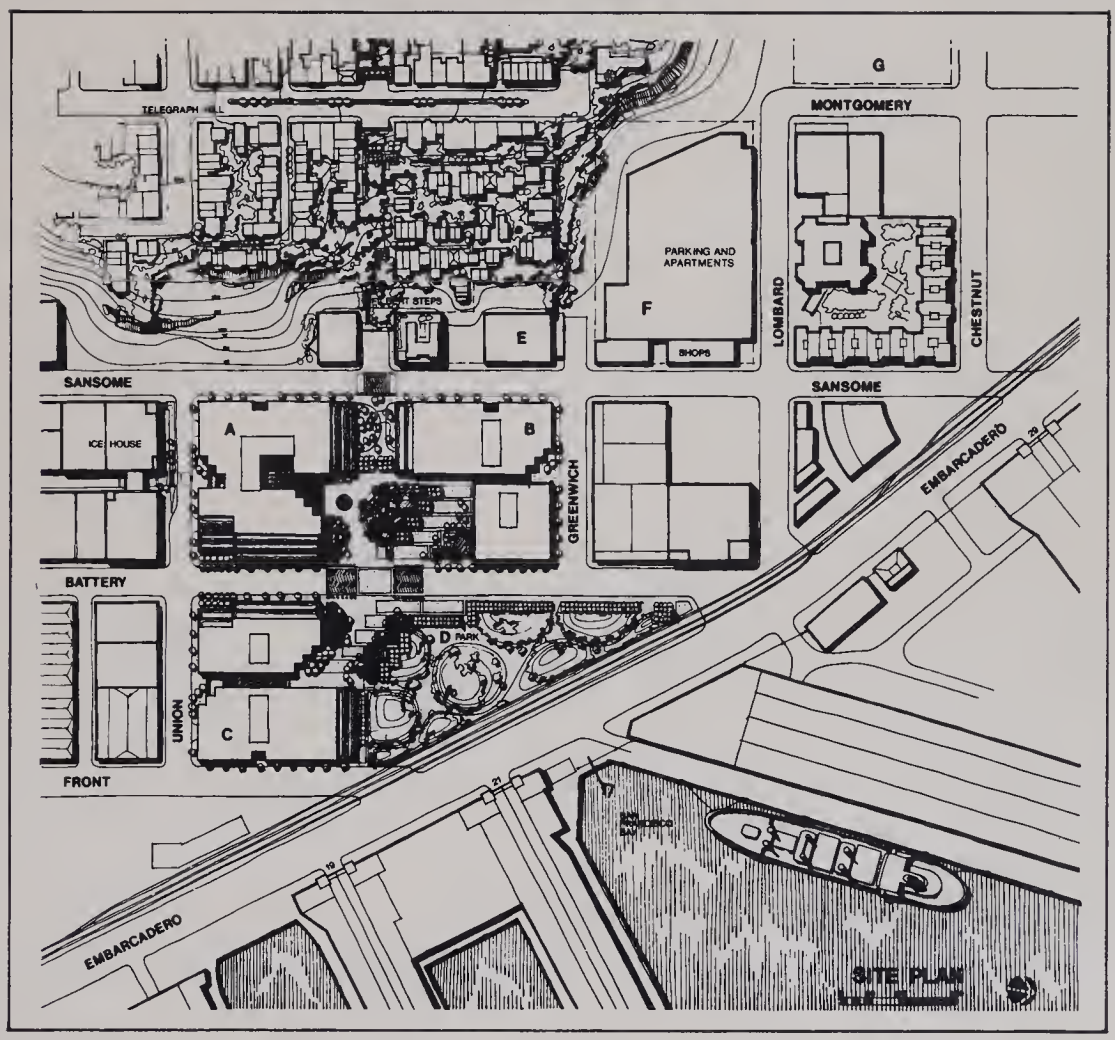
1. 1914 ROUNDHOUSE — 50 Lombard
2. 1902 MERCHANTS ICE — 1 Lombard
3. 1903 ITALIAN-SWISS — 1265 Battery
4. 1920 + CALIFORNIA POULTRY — 1375 Sansome
5. 1907 WALTERS WAREHOUSE — 1301 Sansome
6. 1918 MORGAN MEADOWS — 125 Filbert
7. 1851 wall of PIONEER WHSE — 1151 Battery
8. 1906 VORPAL GALLERY — 1168 Battery
9. 1915 ABBOTT TOWER — 60 Union
10. 1906 COWELL CEMENT WHSE — 1075 Front
11. 1907 CUDAHY PACKING — 55 Union
12. 1902 AMERICAN MILLING — 1050 Battery
13. 1942 GENERAL ENGINEERING — 1100 Battery
14. 1907 CARGO WEST — 1105 Battery
15. 1914 THE ICE HOUSE
16. 1906 BEMIS BAG — 1050 Sansome
17. 1903 ELSIE SMITH — 945 Battery
18. 1906 LIVERY STABLE — 1001 Battery
19. 1861 HOWES WAREHOUSE — 1025 Battery
20. 1906 MUIR SHIPSMITHS — 1035 Battery
21. 1906 W. P. FULLER — 60 Green
22. 1855 GIBB WAREHOUSES — Vallejo at Front
    TRINIDAD BEAN, 855 FRONT and PELICAN PAPER 901 FRONT
23. 1909 BRICK STABLE — 915 Battery
24. 1923 PETRI CIGAR — 901 Battery
25. 1906 LIFE SAVING STATION — 245 Vallejo
26. 1892 COCOANUT FACTORY — 1000 Sansome
27. 1926 SUNSET PRESS — 1045 Sansome
28. 1911 A. PALADINI — 924 Sansome
29. 1907 AMERICAN BISCUIT — 200 Broadway
30. 1927 WHOLESALE GROCERS — 100 Broadway
31. 1880 + UNITED SEED — 60 to 90 Broadway
32. 1927 ALBERS MILLING — 755 Davis

A. BURIED GOLD RUSH SHIP: unknown brig
B. BURIED GOLD RUSH SHIP: "Fortuna"
C. BURIED GOLD RUSH SHIP: barque "Phillip Hone"
D. BURIED GOLD RUSH SHIP: birg "Palmyra"



(See article on page 12)

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN HISTORIC AREA BELOW TELEGRAPH HILL



(Site plan courtesy Gerson Bakar & Associates)

The site plan above shows the area of the proposed development (a joint venture of Gerson Bakar & Associates and the Interland Corporation) which is currently in the early stages of negotiation and planning. THD members have met on three occasions with the developers and expressed THD concerns. Some of these concerns are:

- preservation of views from Telegraph Hill
- preservation of historic buildings on the site
- the provision of shopping and service amenities at street level
- guarantees that proposed parks – especially over public streets – will never be built upon

(Continued on page 12)

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT (Continued from page 11)

- design quality and its appropriateness to the proposed North Waterfront Historic District

The developers have been very responsive to THD concerns and would welcome more public input. Please make your concerns known to our President, Anne Halsted.

PROPOSED NORTH WATERFRONT HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Telegraph Hill Dwellers strongly support the creation of a North Waterfront Historic District. (See Director's Report February 1977 Semaphore – also articles in May and September 1976 issues.) At our September 12, 1977 Dinner Meeting there will be a slide show prepared by Jean Kortum of the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and Earl Moss of the Victorian Alliance who will be our guests.

Since the area is again opening up for development, it would behoove the THD members to go down there and take a look. A walking tour is highly recommended and your comments and suggestions are invited. THD Historian, Pat Shean and Semaphore Editor, John Holmes would welcome photographs or information on any historic buildings in the proposed Historic District or on the Hill. President Anne Halsted confirmed THD support for the proposed North Waterfront Historic District in a recent letter to the Landmarks Board.

EPITAPH

MODERN CLEANERS LEAVES HILL

After 36 years in the same location at 1610-1614 Stockton Street – and many more years in the neighborhood – Ernie and Tosca Anghinetti are being forced to leave mid August. Their ad in this issue is a "Goodbye" present to the Dwellers. Many thanks! We will miss them and wish them the best of luck in their retirement.

We want to thank you all for your love and support!
Tosca & Ernie
THE MODERN CLEANERS
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THD MEMBER APPOINTED TO NEW WATERFRONT COMMITTEE

A new Waterfront Committee has been formed to work with Redevelopment in implementing the BCDC and City Plans for the Waterfront. Since both plans include large public open spaces with cannot be financed privately, the Redevelopment concept is to be explored.

Board member Bob Katz – who was also a member of the BCDC and City Planning Waterfront Committees – has been appointed to serve on the new committee. Rod Freebairn-Smith will represent the YMCA.

While the THD have in the past had serious differences of opinion with Redevelopment, recent actions of the Agency – such as Golden Gateway revisions – have indicated a new spirit.

In exploring Redevelopment plans for the waterfront, we will participate with an open mind, based on the following principles:

- that the BCDC plans (policies and recommendations) be implemented.
- that existing height and bulk limits shall not be exceeded.
- that design plans be based on a variety of designs rather than on uniformity and massive structures.
- that all available local architectural and planning talent be encouraged to fully participate.
- that waterfront uses will serve all social, economic, environmental and fiscal interests of the population.
- that the preservation and expansion of maritime activities be encouraged.
- that mass transit shall be favored over the automobile.
- that the new Committee work in full partnership with Redevelopment in making decisions.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER
MONDAY—SEPTEMBER 12
FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL:
Bill Varcoe 398-4078 or Lowell Groves 397-1332
Guest Speakers at our Dinner Meeting will be:
1. Enrico Banducci (Kearny Street Steps Improvement)
2. Jean Kortum (Landmarks Board) and Earl Moss (Victorian Alliance)
will present slide show on Historic North Waterfront 6:30 PM

S. F. ECOLOGY CENTER

Operating without grants since 1976 the Ecology Center is now totally self-supporting. In straight English, this means that they need money! and new members to help support their many worthy projects concerning the protection of our urban environment, our natural environment, and wildlife, and also those domesticated creatures known as human beings who through their own foolishness are also becoming an "endangered species".

The Center maintains an environmental Art Gallery (new), an Environmental Dessert Series (2-3 times a month with guest speakers), a Daily Luncheon Program, a number of concerts and exhibits, and is looking for means to develop new projects on endangered species of plants and animals in California, including migratory fish, birds, and beasts. They support the "preposterous theory" that the cetaceans (including dolphins and whales) are not fish at all, but mammals! – and highly intelligent ones at that – who deserve a better fate than to be rendered into lubricating oil, food for the Japanese table; or, to be drowned in a tuna net.

A visit to the Ecology Center at 13 Columbus Avenue, S.F. 94111, is highly recommended. Send money or a pledge. Join the Center, which is now offering a copy of "The Watershed Map" and "A Guide to Living Here" to new members. For further information phone 391-6307.

PAY YOUR DUES NOW

– A REMINDER –

Some members have not yet paid their dues for the fiscal year March 1, 1977 to April 1, 1978. According to the By-Laws (Article IV, Section 4) members delinquent in dues for two (2) years shall be removed from active membership. Don't let your membership lapse.

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the start of our fiscal year we have a strong balance of $1638.28 in the General Fund and $257.02 in the Legal Fund. This is normally the high point in our cash flow cycle as we receive the annual dues. Then the balance diminishes as expenses are incurred throughout the year.

So – if you have not paid your dues yet – PLEASE DO SO! Also, please suggest any fund raising ideas that might be incorporated into our forthcoming events or carried out separately.

from David Broadbear
445-7038 (office phone)

SAN FRANCISCO STUDY CENTER

The SF Study Center is a non-profit organization whose primary function is to provide research and technical information to neighborhood organizations. They also have a considerable library on local issues at their headquarters at 1095 Market Street.

Their publication "The San Francisco News Letter" does an excellent job of identifying local issues which are of concern to the neighborhoods. In the April 1977 Semaphore we reprinted a timely article by Marjorie Fishman on the Garfield Market which points out the need to reexamine those provisions of the planning code which relate to "non-conforming uses" – commercial facilities in areas zoned residential.

The efforts of the Study Center certainly deserve our support. If you wish to keep informed on what is happening at City Hall, support the Study Center by becoming a patron, $50 a year; friend, $25 a year; or by subscribing to the San Francisco News Letter at $15 yearly: 1095 Market St., 94103. Phone: 626-1650.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

After several months of meetings, your By-Laws Revision Committee is ready to present its recommendations to the General Membership for a thorough amendment of the THD By-Laws. A copy of the proposed revision will be mailed to each member along with the announcement of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be voted upon. (Per By-Laws ARTICLE XI). In the proposed amendment some ARTICLES and Sections remain unchanged, some Sections have been renumbered or included in other Sections, new provisions have been added and some old provisions have been deleted.

The goals of the committee are to insure a better flow of information between the President, Board Members, Committees, and the General Membership; and to provide guidelines for a more effective and democratically run organization. If you do not have a copy (blue) of the present By-Laws, please write or phone: John Homes, 400 Union Street (421-0274) or Jane Winslow, 396 Lombard Street (421-1466).

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WATER, WATER – NOWHERE! * * * * * * * SHORTAGE CONTINUES

REDUCED WATER ALLOTMENT ON HILL

In a recent letter from the Department of Public Works in answer to THD member Ruth Burton's inquiry regarding the water allotment for the Montgomery Street strip, the answer came back that a thirty per cent reduction in use is required. Many THD members were involved in the original planting of the Montgomery Street strip and of course, wherever trees were involved, you may be sure that Dorothy Erskine had something to do with it. For many years now Ruth Burton has been almost entirely responsible for the watering and maintaining of this beautiful park at her own expense.

The Dwellers certainly appreciate her efforts and share her concern about water shortage – especially as it affects efforts to keep the Hill beautiful. If you have some extra water saved up which might help save a thirsty tree, shrub, or perhaps a dying plant, get in touch with Ruth Burton.

¡ HELP ! ¡ HELP !

Semaphore Back Copies Needed

Historian Pat Shean (421-3655) needs only No. 53 – September 1974 to complete the Historian's file.

Editor John Holmes (421-0274) needs the following issues to complete the Semaphore and Advertising files:

No. 13 – April 1962
No. 34 – January 1969
No. 49 – March 1973
No. 53 – September 1974
No. 56 – August 1975
* No. 57 – May 1976
No. 58 – September 1976
No. 59 – February 1977
* No. 60 – April 1977

* Need two copies each

YES YOU CAN CAN!

Good News on Garfield School!

We will have a new Garfield School! At their meeting on June 30 the School Board voted to apply for $2.3 million in public funds – which if approved will go to build a 16 room school building on the site below Coit Tower.

The new School, disigned by architect George Homsey, will be larger by 4 rooms than the original plan called for two years ago. This is to accomodate grades K-5, in compliance with Superintendent Alioto's plan to change elementary schools, which are now either K-3 or 4-6, to Kindergarten through fifth grade.

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Sunday – CLOSED
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THD
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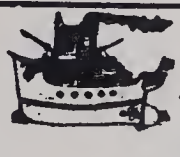

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

(Continued from page 9)

August 10, 1977-Directors The following motions were passed:
- endorsed in principle the Francisco Street mini-park;
- asked Park & Recreation Commission to allow only neighborhood, not citywide, uses at Washington Square;
- opposed legislation proposed to limit discretionary review, increase filing fee for rezoning, and modify building permit procedures.

Also discussed Telegraph Landing concerns about proposed Levi Place; reviewed some proposed changes to bylaws; discussed other proposed parks in area.

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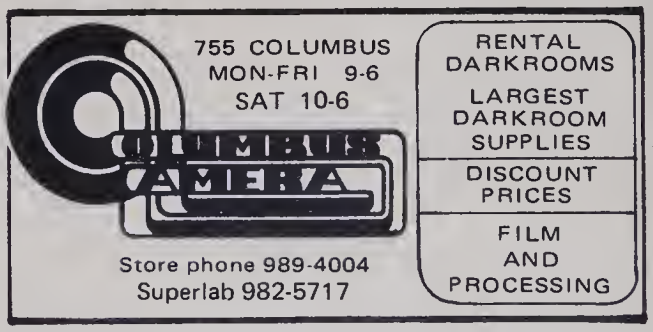

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